



ATTACHMENT A REMARKS

Considering the matters raised in the Office Action in the same order as raised, claims 11-14 have been objected to because of a typographical error in line 11 of claim 11. This error has been corrected. The Examiner is thanked for the assistance provided in this regard. A minor typographical error in claim 19 regarding the position of the semicolon has also been corrected.

Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 11-13, 15, 17, 19-25 and 27 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being "anticipated by" the newly cited Olson et al ("Olson") reference while claims 3-6, 10, 14 and 18 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Olson in view of Homer while claims 9 and 26 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Olson in view of Liu. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

In rejecting the claims, the Examiner has contended that speakers 122 and 124 of Olson are internal speakers and that elements 172 are openings "in the chassis from which sound from the speaker 122, 124 can emanate, wherein the openings 172 allow heat generated by the at least one heat generating component to escape."

Although it appears that the Examiner intended to refer to air intake openings 170 rather than "lines" 172, it is respectfully submitted that, in any event, the openings 170 are not openings in the chassis from which sound from the speakers can emanate. It is noted that the Olson publication only very cursorily mentions speakers 122 and 124 in passing, and it is submitted that there is nothing in the discussion in the Olson publication to disclose to one of ordinary skill in the art that these speakers are anything other than simply speakers that are conventionally mounted in the chassis of the computer with the speaker flush or abutted against the outer wall of the housing. Such speakers are specifically designed and constructed such that the sound therefrom emanates only through the speaker formed by the outer wall of the housing. This conventional construction prevents sound from emanating anywhere other than through the speaker grill or face (it would obviously be undesirable for sound to emanate from other locations such as through air intake openings), and also prevents any flow of heat from a heat generating device disposed within the chassis from flowing out through the

speaker grill or face. Furthermore, even if one is of the opinion that sound is somehow able to emanate from the “air intake openings 170” of the Olson publication, it is submitted that the description of the openings as “air intake openings” does not lead one of ordinary skill in the art to understand that these openings “allow heat generated by the at least one heat generating component to escape.”

In contrast to speakers 122 and 124 of Olson, the speaker claimed in claim 1 is an internal speaker and the openings in the chassis for the speaker enable sound from the speaker to emanate therefrom and also allow heat generated by the at least one heat generating component to escape therefrom as well. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 patentable defines over the Olson reference.

Similar remarks apply to independent claim 11 which recites, inter alia, an internal speaker, a first opening in the chassis spaced apart from the internal speaker which facilitates emanation of sound outside the computer chassis and also facilitates air flow along a first path between the internal speaker and the first opening.

With respect to independent claim 15, this claim recites a notebook computer including a chassis containing at least one surface mounted speaker grill located at least a minimum distance away from an internal speaker. In Olson, the speaker grill would form part of the speaker and would not be spaced from the speaker. Claim 15 also recites that the internal speaker is located in the chassis such that sound from the internal speaker can emanate from the surface-mounted speaker grill and heated air from heat generating components can flow out of the surface-mounted speaker grill. This is clearly not possible with the computer disclosed in Olson wherein the speakers are mounted such that sound can, of course, emanate through the surface-mounted grill or face of the speaker but heated air from heat generating components cannot flow out of this grill or face.

Independent claim 19 recites, inter alia, “providing a speaker grill on the surface of a portable notebook computer ... in a position such that the grill is disposed within an airflow exhaust path for the computer and venting heated air in the airflow exhaust path out through the speaker grill.” Again, the grill or face of the speakers 122 and 124 in Olson are not disposed within an airflow exhaust path for the computer and heated air in an airflow exhaust path is not vented out through the speaker grill.

With respect to the dependent claims, these claims are patentable for at least the reasons set forth in support of the patentability of the claims parent thereto. Moreover, at least some of these claims are believed to be separately patentable over the cited art.

Allowance of the application in its present form is respectfully solicited.

END REMARKS